

## Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00  
INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 SSC-01 /051 W  
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R 070740Z APR 78  
FM AMEMBASSY JAKARTA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7989  
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR  
AMEMBASSY MANILA  
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE  
AMCONSUL MEDAN  
AMCONSUL SURABAYA  
CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

C O N F I D E N T I A L JAKARTA 4513

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PGOV, ID  
SUBJECT: FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS IN WAKE OF NEW CABINET

REF: JAKARTA 4033 (DTG 290920Z MAR 78)

1. SUMMARY. THE SUHARTO REGIME IS HOPING THAT FORMER VICE-PRESIDENTS HAMENGKUBUWONO AND HATTA WILL LEND THEIR PRESTIGE TO THE NEW GOVERNMENT BY AGREEING TO BECOME SPECIAL ADVISERS TO THE PRESIDENT. THE ROLE OF THE JUNIOR MINISTERS IS STILL UNDER DISCUSSION, WITH APPOINTMENTS LIKELY TO BE MADE IN ABOUT A WEEK. ADDITIONAL CHANGES ARE EXPECTED IN THE INTELLIGENCE/SECURITY APPARATUS OF THE GOVERNMENT. END SUMMARY.

2. ACCORDING TO A RELIABLE SOURCE CLOSE TO THE PALACE, THE SUHARTO REGIME IS STILL "WORKING ON" THE POSSIBILITY THAT FORMER VICE-PRESIDENTS SULTAN HAMENGKUBUWONO IX AND MOHAMMAD HATTA WILL LEND THEIR PRESTIGE TO THE NEW  
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GOVERNMENT BY AGREEING TO BECOMING SPECIAL ADVISERS TO THE PRESIDENT. THE PLAN, IF IT COMES TO FRUITION, WOULD MAKE THE TWO MEN COUNSELORS WITH A RANK EQUIVALENT TO THAT OF CABINET MINISTERS. (COMMENT: THERE IS AS YET NO EVIDENCE THAT THE TWO NOMINEES, EACH BELIEVED TO BE DISENCHANTED WITH ASPECTS OF THE SUHARTO REGIME, WOULD ACCEPT SUCH APPOINTMENTS.)

3. ACCORDING TO THE SAME SOURCE, THE GOVERNMENT HOPES TO NAME THE NEW JUNIOR MINISTERS IN ABOUT A WEEK BUT HAS STILL NOT FINALIZED THEIR ROLES AND VERTICAL BUREAUCRATIC RELATIONSHIPS -- TO THE FULL MINISTERS ABOVE THEM AND POSSIBLE DIRECTORS GENERAL BELOW THEM. (NOTE: THIS SOURCE AND OTHERS HAVE CONFIRMED THAT THE CANDIDATES NAMED IN REFTEL REMAIN THE FRONT-RUNNERS FOR THE RESPECTIVE JUNIOR MINISTERSHIPS, WITH THE CURRENT HEAD OF THE GOLKAR WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION "KORPS WANITA INDONESIA," KOWANI, MRS. SUDARSONO, TAPPED FOR THE FINAL SLOT AS JUNIOR MINISTER FOR THE ROLE OF WOMEN.) OUR SOURCE ALSO PROJECTS THAT CHANGES IN THE SECRETARY GENERAL/DIRECTOR GENERAL LEVEL OF THE VARIOUS DEPARTMENTS WILL BEGIN TO BE ANNOUNCED IN ONE OR TWO MONTHS. WHEN QUERIED IF THE SECGEN/DIRGEN CHANGES WOULD BE SUBSTANTIAL, THE SOURCE SAID, "I HOPE SO BUT THAT MAY BE WISHFUL THINKING."

4. IT APPEARS THAT THERE WILL BE ADDITIONAL CHANGES IN THE INTELLIGENCE/SECURITY STRUCTURE. NEW MINISTER OF INFORMATION LT. GEN. ALI MURTOPO HAS ALREADY RESIGNED HIS POST AS DEPUTY CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE COORDINATING BOARD (BAKIN), WHILE BAKIN CHAIRMAN LT. GEN. YOGA SUGAMA, ACCORDING TO OUR SOURCE, MAY SOON MOVE TO KOPKAMTIB, TO REPLACE THE JUST-APPOINTED LT. GEN. DARJATMO AS CHIEF OF STAFF. DARJATMO, SAYS THE SOURCE, MAY CONFIDENTIAL

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BE APPOINTED AS NEW CHAIRMAN OF PARLIAMENT (DPR) "IF HE IS NEEDED" IN THAT JOB (PRESUMABLY MEANING IF NO AGREEMENT CAN BE REACHED WITH THE MOSLEM-BASED UNITY DEVELOPMENT PARTY, PPP, ON A CANDIDATE FROM THE PPP ACCEPTABLE TO BOTH THE PARTY AND THE GOVERNMENT.) IN THE VENT THESE CHANGES TRANSPIRE, AMBASSADOR TO ITALY (ARMY) BRIG. GENERAL ASWIS MARMO "IS BEING GROOMED" TO REPLACE YOGA AT BAKIN. OUR SOURCE SAID THAT DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (HANKAM) INTELLIGENCE CHIEF MAJ. GEN. BENNY MURDANI IS NOT INVOLVED IN THE MUSICAL CHAIRS AND WILL REMAIN IN HIS CURRENT POSITION.

5. THE NEW CABINET HAD ITS FIRST MEETING ON MARCH 5, RECEIVING A BRIEFING FROM BAKIN ON THE SECURITY SITUATION AND GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FROM THE PRESIDENT ON THE GOALS AND PLANS OF THE NEW ADMINISTRATION. MURTOPO, IN HIS FIRST OFFICIAL MEETING WITH THE PRESS AS INFORMATION CHIEF, SPURRED THE NEW GOVERNMENT'S FIRST MINI-CONTROVERSY, SAYING THAT THE CONCEPT OF JAVANESE MYSTICISM (KEPERCAYAAN) WOULD BECOME PART OF THE CURRICULUM OF INDONESIA'S PUBLIC SCHOOLS. HIS FORMER AIDE AT THE CENTER FOR STRATEGIC AND INTERNATIONAL STUDIES (CSIS) AND NEW MINISTER OF

EDUCATION AND CULTURE DR. DAEOD JOESOE, HOWEVER, WHEN  
LATER QUERIED BY THE PRESS, PUBLICLY DISAGREED WITH HIS  
OLD BOSS, SAYING HE HADN'T YET CONSIDERED THE QUESTION  
AND DIDN'T IN ANY CASE HAVE TEACHERS TRAINED IN  
KEPERCAYAAN TO CONDUCT COURSES. THERE APPEARS TO BE  
AGREEMENT, HOWEVER, THAT KEPERCAYAAN, WHETHER IN THE  
SCHOOL CURRICULUM OR NOT, WILL NOT BECOME THE BUSINESS OF  
THE DEPARTMENT OF RELIGION. THE NEW RELIGION MINISTER  
LT. GEN. (RET.) ALAMSYAH SAID KEPERCAYAAN WOULD DEFINITELY NOT  
BE HIS RESPONSIBILITY BUT WOULD MORE LIKELY FALL UNDER THE  
AUSPICES OF THE CULTURE SECTION OF JOESOE'S DEPARTMENT.  
ALAMSYAH'S ANNOUNCEMENT WAS APPLAUDED BY ISLAMIC SPOKES-  
MEN, INCLUDING THE CHAIRMAN OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF  
ULEMA (RELIGIOUS PROPAGATION) DR. HAMKA.  
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## Message Attributes

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